

S. 3902

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) were added as cosponsors of S. 3902, a bill to amend the Insurrection Act to curtail violations against the civil liberties of the people of the United States, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 49

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 49, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States authorizing the Congress to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Ms. COLLINS:

S. 3907. A bill to provide that all critical access hospitals are eligible for loans under the paycheck protection program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

PPP FOR CRITICAL ACCESS HOSPITALS ACT

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce legislation to allow nonprofit critical access hospitals (as defined by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services) that are undergoing Chapter 11 bankruptcy reorganizations to apply for forgivable loans under the Paycheck Protection Program, if they are otherwise eligible. The language of my bill, the "PPP Critical Access Hospitals Act," mirrors language originally introduced by Rep. GOLDEN that was included in the House-passed "HEROES Act."

While hospitals are not prohibited from participating in the PPP, those that have previously or are currently under bankruptcy protection have been unable to access PPP funds, due to an interpretation of underlying Small Business Administration 7(a) program rules. While I recognize the importance of protecting taxpayer investments in the SBA 7(a) program, the PPP program, which I coauthored along with Senators RUBIO, CARDIN, and SHAHEEN, is by design largely forgivable when used for eligible expenditures.

The hospitals that would benefit from this bill are critical infrastructure in the COVID-19 response effort,

and many have experienced substantial increases in expenses associated with preparing for and responding to the pandemic. They simultaneously faced sharp declines in revenue associated with declining patient volumes due to the cancellation of routine and elective procedures, in order to protect public health and conserve limited supplies of Personal Protective Equipment, consistent with guidance from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

While these entities are few in number, they are vitally important to the communities they serve, both as frontline health care providers during this public health emergency and as anchor institutions that provide the paychecks and local economic stability that Congress intended the Paycheck Protection Program to preserve. These institutions need temporary financial assistance to weather sharp revenue decreases that have resulted from Federal and State instructions to cancel elective medical procedures as part of COVID-19 response preparedness. Expanding the PPP to include these key employers will allow them to keep their doors open until they can resume normal operations once pandemic-related disruptions to their operations have passed.

Two institutions in Maine that would benefit from this bill are Penobscot Valley Hospital in Lincoln, and Calais Regional Hospital, in Calais. Both are in the midst of Chapter 11 proceedings, and both have suffered serious revenue shortfalls due to the cancellation or scaling back of elective procedures during the pandemic.

The bill I am introducing today is carefully targeted to address a unique financial situation that frontline critical access hospitals face during this public health emergency. I urge my colleagues to support it.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 609—RECOGNIZING THAT FOR 45 YEARS, PAPUA NEW GUINEA AND THE UNITED STATES HAVE SHARED A CLOSE FRIENDSHIP BASED ON SHARED GOALS OF STABILITY, PROSPERITY, AND PEACE IN THE REGION, AND EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL CONTINUE TO REMAIN A STRONG, RELIABLE, AND ACTIVE PARTNER IN THE PACIFIC

Mr. GARDNER (for himself and Ms. HIRONO) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 609

Whereas Papua New Guinea became independent on September 16, 1975;

Whereas Papua New Guinea is a valued security partner of the United States, partici-

pating in the International Military Education and Training (IMET) program, which sends members of the Papua New Guinea Defence Force to professional military education courses in the United States;

Whereas the United States has partnered with Papua New Guinea and Australia to modernize Papua New Guinea Defence Force's Lombrum Naval Base on Manus Island to assist Papua New Guinea in defending its sovereignty and maritime rights;

Whereas the United States Government supports cooperative activities with Papua New Guinea, including sustainable fisheries management, HIV/AIDS prevention, and care, and those authorized by the Asia Reassurance Initiative Act;

Whereas section 1252 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116-92) expands the number of countries that receive assistance under the Indo-Pacific Maritime Security Initiative, including Papua New Guinea;

Whereas Papua New Guinea hosted the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Summit in November 2018; and

Whereas Palm Desert, California and Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea are sister cities, a broad-based, long-term partnership to promote peace through mutual respect, understanding, and cooperation centered on people-to-people exchanges: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends Papua New Guinea on successfully maintaining a parliamentary democracy since independence, and its ongoing efforts to deliver greater transparency in infrastructure development and accountability in government;

(2) supports and affirms the full implementation of provisions of the Asia Reassurance Initiative Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-409) with regard to deepening its cooperation with Papua New Guinea in areas of mutual interest, including fisheries and marine resource conservation, environmental challenges and resilience, global health, development and trade, people-to-people ties, and continuing United States assistance, as appropriate, to support the rule of law, good governance, and economic development;

(3) supports the Papua New Guinea Electrification Partnership in cooperation with Australia, Japan, and New Zealand, a project to connect 70 percent of the population to electricity by 2030, and the executive branch's commitment to principles-based, sustainable infrastructure development that is transparent, non-discriminatory, environmentally responsible, promotes fair and open competition, upholds robust standards, meets the genuine needs of the people of Papua New Guinea, and avoids unsustainable debt burdens; and

(4) recognizes Papua New Guinea's participation in multilateral institutions, including the United Nations, International Monetary Fund, World Bank, Asian Development Bank, International Atomic Energy Agency, the World Trade Organization, the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environmental Programme, as well as the Pacific Islands Forum; Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum, Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Regional Forum (ARF), the Pacific Community, and the South Pacific Regional Environmental Program.

SENATE RESOLUTION 610—RECOGNIZING THAT FOR 50 YEARS, THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI HAS WORKED WITH THE UNITED STATES TOWARD STABILITY, PROSPERITY, AND PEACE IN THE PACIFIC AND BEYOND, AND EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL CONTINUE TO REMAIN A STRONG, RELIABLE, AND ACTIVE PARTNER IN THE PACIFIC

Mr. GARDNER (for himself and Ms. HIRONO) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 610

Whereas Fiji became independent of the United Kingdom on October 10, 1970;

Whereas Fiji is a valued security partner of the United States, participating in the International Military Education and Training (IMET) program, which sends members of the Republic of Fiji Military Forces to professional military education courses in the United States;

Whereas the Republic of Fiji Military Forces deployed to Australia in January 2020 to assist with the Australian bushfires and look to contribute to future United Nations peacekeeping operations;

Whereas Fiji participates in workshops sponsored by United States Indo-Pacific Command covering international humanitarian law, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR), maritime security, peacekeeping, and search and rescue operations;

Whereas, since signing a shiprider agreement with Fiji in 2019, the United States has hosted Fijian shipriders on United States Navy and Coast Guard vessels;

Whereas the United States Government supports strengthening cooperative activities with the Government of Fiji, including sustainable fisheries management and those authorized by the Asia Reassurance Initiative Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-109);

Whereas section 1252 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116-92) expands the number of countries that receive assistance under the Indo-Pacific Maritime Security Initiative, including Fiji;

Whereas a peaceful, prosperous, and open Indo-Pacific rooted in a rule-based order that promotes security, opportunity, and dignity to all peoples benefits the people of both the United States and Fiji;

Whereas Fiji restored democratic governance in 2014;

Whereas over 30,000 United States citizens trace their roots to Fiji, and many of these reside in California;

Whereas Fiji has hosted the Peace Corps since 1968;

Whereas Des Plaines, Illinois, and Nailuva, Fiji, are sister cities, a broad-based, long-term partnership to promote peace through mutual respect, understanding, and cooperation centered on people-to-people exchanges; and

Whereas the Nevada National Guard entered into a State Partnership Program with Fiji in 2019: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends the Republic of Fiji on a successful return to democracy and 2 elections deemed to be free and fair by international observers;

(2) supports and affirms the full implementation of provisions of the Asia Reassurance Initiative Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-409) with regard to deepening its cooperation with Fiji in areas of mutual interest, includ-

ing fisheries and marine resource conservation, environmental challenges and resilience, global health, development and trade, and people-to-people ties, as well as continuing United States assistance, as appropriate, to support the rule of law, good governance, and economic development; and

(3) recognizes Fiji's participation in multinational security forces and multilateral institutions, including the United Nations, the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the International Atomic Energy Agency, the World Trade Organization, the Pacific Community, and the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environmental Programme, and the Pacific Islands Forum.

SENATE RESOLUTION 611—RECOGNIZING THAT FOR 50 YEARS, THE KINGDOM OF TONGA HAS WORKED WITH THE UNITED STATES TOWARD STABILITY, PROSPERITY, AND PEACE IN THE PACIFIC AND BEYOND, AND EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL CONTINUE TO REMAIN A STRONG, RELIABLE, AND ACTIVE PARTNER IN THE PACIFIC

Mr. GARDNER (for himself and Ms. HIRONO) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 611

Whereas Tonga's Queen Salote Tupou III negotiated for the end of British protectorate status for her nation and transition to Commonwealth membership, which bore fruit in 1970;

Whereas Tonga is a valued security partner of the United States, and the Tongan Defense Services deployed four contingents to Iraq between 2004 and 2008;

Whereas, in the coming year, the United States is committed to deepening this relationship through security cooperation, including hosting Tongan defense forces for International Military Education and Training (IMET) programs;

Whereas the United States Government supports many cooperative activities with the Government of Tonga in sustainable fisheries management and development assistance, including those authorized by the Asia Reassurance Initiative Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-409);

Whereas section 1252 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116-92) expands the number of countries that receive assistance under the Indo-Pacific Maritime Security Initiative, including Tonga;

Whereas a peaceful, prosperous, and open Indo-Pacific rooted in a rule-based order that promotes security, opportunity, and dignity to all peoples benefits the people of both the United States and the Kingdom of Tonga;

Whereas the Kingdom of Tonga, a constitutional monarchy, took steps towards democratic governance beginning in 2010;

Whereas over 50,000 United States citizens trace their roots to the Kingdom of Tonga, and many of these reside in the States of Utah, California, and Hawaii;

Whereas Tonga has hosted the Peace Corps since 1967; and

Whereas the Nevada National Guard entered into a State Partnership Program with Tonga in 2014: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends the Kingdom of Tonga on a successful transition to a constitutional

monarchy and 3 elections deemed to be free and fair by international observers;

(2) supports and affirms the full implementation of provisions of the Asia Reassurance Initiative Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-409) with regard to deepening its cooperation with Tonga in areas of mutual interest, including fisheries and marine resource conservation, environmental challenges and resilience, global health, development and trade, people-to-people ties, and continuing United States assistance, as appropriate, to support the rule of law, good governance, and economic development; and

(3) recognizes Tonga's participation in multinational security forces and multilateral institutions including the United Nations, International Monetary Fund, World Bank, Asian Development Bank, International Atomic Energy Agency, the World Trade Organization, the Pacific Community, the Secretariat of the Regional Environmental Programme, and the Pacific Islands Forum.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 1593. Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. STABENOW, Ms. DUCKWORTH, and Mr. SCHUMER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 1957, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modernize and improve the Internal Revenue Service, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1594. Mr. BARRASSO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1957, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1595. Mr. BARRASSO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1957, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1596. Ms. BALDWIN (for herself, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. BROWN, and Mr. SCHUMER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 1957, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1597. Mr. CASSIDY (for himself, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. JONES, Mr. WICKER, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. SHELBY, and Ms. MURKOWSKI) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1957, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1598. Mr. BARRASSO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1957, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 1593. Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. STABENOW, Ms. DUCKWORTH, and Mr. SCHUMER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 1957, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modernize and improve the Internal Revenue Service, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in subtitle A of title I, insert the following:

SEC. 1. HARBOR MAINTENANCE TRUST FUND REFORM.

(a) EXPENDITURE OF COLLECTIONS FROM HARBOR MAINTENANCE TRUST FUND.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 210 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 (33 U.S.C. 2238) is amended—

(A) by striking the section designation and heading and inserting the following: